

## Kabul rebels fire at planes

KABUL (AP) — Dissident rebels Sunday tried to shoot down two civilian jetliners as they took off from the city's airport, the government said. Defense Ministry sources said as many as 30 rockets fell around the joint military-civilian airport as the Ariana Airlines planes departed for Peshawar, Pakistan, and New Delhi, India. Some missiles also slammed into the grounds of the presidential palace in central Kabul, but no one was injured or killed, according to the sources. President Burhanuddin Rabbani's government blamed forces loyal to Hezb-e-Islami, a faction that has threatened to down any civilian airliner arriving or leaving Kabul. The threat prompted the government to ground all Ariana flights for nearly two weeks. Sunday's attack was the heaviest in Kabul since a national council of tribal elders and religious leaders voted to keep Mr. Rabbani in office for two more years. But half of the 10 major rebel leaders who fought for 14 years to end communist rule opposed Mr. Rabbani's re-election, claiming it was rigged, and threatened to resume the civil war that has already left the nation in ruins.



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# U.S. hits Baghdad with cruise missiles

*Defiant Saddam says battle far from over on second anniversary of Gulf war*

## Iraqi jet downed in north; Baghdad alters compromise offer, abandons police posts

Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES launched another attack on Iraq Sunday, two years to the day after the Gulf war began in the allied effort to force Baghdad to relinquish Kuwait.

Bursts of anti-aircraft fire lit up the night sky over the Iraqi capital after days of confrontation over U.N. "no-fly" zones and enforcement of U.N. resolutions.

The attack, during President George Bush's final week in office, followed a series of skirmishes in the aerial exclusion zones, including one in which an Iraqi plane was shot down in northern Iraq earlier Sunday.

It followed what appeared to be Iraqi concessions on two issues of contention — U.N. flights to Iraq and abandoning border posts now inside what the U.N. considers as Kuwait.

Officials in Washington said the attack included Tomahawk cruise

missiles launched against an alleged Iraqi nuclear weapons development target near Baghdad.

That was intended "to ensure that Iraq never again acquires weapons of mass destruction," White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said.

United States Tomahawk cruise missiles today attacked a nuclear fuel processing plant near Baghdad, Iraq, which is part of its weapons of mass destruction programme. This plant made components for Iraq's nuclear enrichment programme, including parts of its electro-magnetic isotope separators which Iraq has used in its programme to create nuclear weapons," Mr. Fitzwater told reporters at the White House.

Mr. Fitzwater said he did not know if the attack on the Zaafraniyah nuclear site — the second Western attack on Iraq in the last five days — had destroyed the facility.

The spokesman would not say how many of the cruise missiles were launched or from where they originated but television reports said 40

were launched from naval vessels in the Red Sea and the Gulf.

No U.S. aircraft were involved in the attack, Mr. Fitzwater said.

Cable News Network (CNN) broadcast five scenes of anti-aircraft guns going off in the night sky, much like the night two years ago when the Gulf war began. Explosions could be heard in the background. The guns fell silent after about half an hour.

Later, CNN reported that what one witness described as "a rocket" had struck the Al Rasheed Hotel, the home of Western journalists in Baghdad, and that a civilian female kitchen employee had been killed. Three others were injured.

One witness said "huge great balls of smoke" could be seen near the Baghdad Conference Palace — which is still being repaired after being hit in the Gulf war.

Witnesses said that the presidential palace on the banks of the Tigris River had been sealed off.

President Bush was still at his Camp David, Maryland, retreat with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Mr. Fitzwater said there had been numerous consultations between the administration and a representative of President-elect Bill Clinton, who was due to arrive in Washington later Sunday for festivities leading up to Wednesday's inauguration.

Speaking on U.S. television, Clinton spokesman George Stephanopoulos said:

"Saddam Hussein must comply with U.N. resolutions. He must abide with

international standards. If he doesn't he will have to pay the consequences."

Mr. Stephanopoulos said Mr. Clinton "will do what is necessary to enforce United Nations resolutions." Iraqi President Saddam Hussein read a brief statement on Baghdad television and radio in which he called for retaliation saying "strike them;



Thousands of Iraqis Sunday stage a defiant demonstration on the second anniversary of the start of the Gulf war (AFP photo)

this is the day of confrontation." The speech appeared to be meant as a signal that President Saddam, who had been meeting with his commanders, was unharmed in the attack.

"Attack them wherever you find them. God and his agents and believers will be satisfied with you," said the Iraqi leader.

"Attack them. God is with you. Glory to our martyrs. Long live Iraq, symbol of the mujahedeen."

A statement from London said Prime Minister John Major's government "fully supported" the missile attack. The French defense ministry said France did not take part and that it was "an American operation."

Earlier, the United States said an American jet shot down an Iraqi plane in the "no-fly" zone of northern Iraq, as President Saddam threatened a "final and decisive chapter in his conflict with the West."

"The aggressor will fall in their evil enterprises that time again," President Saddam said in a defiant speech marking the second anniversary of the start of the Gulf war.

Mr. Fitzwater confirmed that an American F-16 jet had downed an Iraqi MiG-29 over the zone set up in 1991.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the Iraqi plane was shot down as it

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## 'Missiles did not hit nuclear site'

THE CRUISE missiles fired at Baghdad hit a mechanical engineering plant and not a nuclear site, Cable News Network (CNN) quoted an Iraqi statement as saying Sunday.

The network said the statement, from the Iraqi Information Ministry, said the plant makes molds and dies. The White House said earlier that the plant, 20 kilometers from Baghdad, was a nuclear fabricating plant which made components for nuclear weapons.

At least three people were killed during the aerial attack on the Iraqi capital, a hospital doctor said.

"I know of three dead and 19 wounded in my hospital alone," doctor Fawzan Al Naim, head of surgery at Baghdad's Yarmouk Hospital, told Reuters.

## Musa makes little headway in efforts to end expulsion crisis

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa Sunday proposed compromises to defuse the crisis over the expelled Palestinians, but his meetings with Israeli leaders apparently ended inconclusively.

The Egyptian proposals "have been met with an open mind," Mr. Musa said after a one-hour talk with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. "With this I don't mean I want to say that the prime minister has accepted this or that.

Mr. Rabin implied there was no breakthrough. "Certain ideas were brought by the foreign minister. As you know the government of Israel sticks to its

resolutions, to its decisions," Mr. Rabin said at a joint news conference with Mr. Musa.

Neither gave details. However, Mr. Musa quashed speculation that Egypt would take the evictees and their two-year term of exile is up, saying: "What we are working for is to let them return, not to come to Egypt."

Israel expelled 415 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Dec. 17.

The group is stranded in a tent camp in South Lebanon.

The expulsions have been condemned worldwide, and the U.N. Security Council has demanded the men be repatriated.

Domestic opposition also re-

rights attorneys argued before a seven-judge supreme court panel that the evictees' rights were violated because the government expelled them in haste, sidestepping normal appeals procedures.

Attorney General Yosef Harish countered that the men were given the right to appeal retroactively and that 16 expelled in error can return immediately.

Foreign legal experts in attendance said Mr. Harish was implying the population was not entitled to protection under the Geneva convention on treatment of civilians in occupied territory.

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## Evictees mark one month in exile

MAR AL ZOHOUR, Lebanon (Agencies) — Palestinians expelled by Israel marked their first month of exile in southern Lebanon Sunday by marching towards Israeli lines and staging a protest sit-in.

Abdu Aziz Rantisi, a Gaza Strip physician who is the men's spokesman, said after the evictees returned to their camp: "The march ... symbolises our rejection of the expulsion orders and our determination to return home."

The Israelis in their self-designed "security zone," an occupied border strip, fired on the evictees when they staged a similar march last month, wounding four.

There was no shooting this time. But there was also no sign of a breakthrough in the impasse between Lebanon and Israel over the men's plight.

The Palestinians were expelled by Israel Dec. 17 in ostensible retaliation for the slaying of six Israeli troopers by suspected Muslim fundamentalists.

Israel accuses the men, all from the occupied West Bank and Gaza, being supporters of the fundamentalist Hamas and Islamic Jihad movements.

Lebanon, saying it will not become a "dumping ground" for Palestinians expelled by Israel, refused to accept the men.

Israel refuses to take them back, even though the mass expulsion has jeopardised the U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli peace talks.

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## Deputies raise uproar over American attacks on Iraq

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Members of the Lower House of Parliament Sunday condemned the Jan. 13 U.S. air strike against Iraq and the House entrusted its Foreign Affairs Committee with drafting a statement condemning what some deputies described as "barbarous aggression" aimed at stifling the rebuilding process in the war-torn country.

The House also decided to convene a special session to discuss deputies' demands that Jordan withdraw from the Arab-Israeli peace talks and Parliament

protest the U.S. air raid on Iraq at international organisations as well as a call on the Arab League to initiate reconciliatory efforts among Arab states.

The statement should condemn the United States' position on the (Palestinian) evictees," he said, pointing to U.S. threats to veto any U.N. move to activate Article VII of its charter and enforce sanctions on Israel for refusing to abide by Security Council Resolution 799 on the expelled Palestinians.

Saying that the United States is the "obvious enemy" of the Arabs, Deputy Hussein Mijali questioned the viability of continuing the U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Muslim Brotherhood Deputy Abdallah Al Akaleh demanded that the House issue a statement

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## Settlements expanding'

## U.S. could hand over to U.N. in Somalia in 2 weeks

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — The United States could hand over command of peacekeeping troops in Somalia to the United Nations in two weeks' time, a military spokesman said Sunday.

"We feel we're rapidly approaching the point where we'll be able to make a very smooth handover to the United Nations command that's going to follow us," Marine Colonel Fred Peck told a news conference.

"We are perhaps only a matter of a couple of weeks away from being at that point."

Col. Peck, the chief military spokesman for U.S. forces in Somalia, said the American-led task force had successfully established eight humanitarian relief centres in the famine-hit interior.

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Yacoub Zayad, general secretary of the party.

Dr. Zayad said he had resolved "misunderstanding" over his party's platform during talks with the government.

"They were concerned about some articles in the party's constitution but it is no longer a problem," Dr. Zayad said.

Jordan has so far licensed six parties since it lifted a three-decade-old ban on political parties.

Over the last three weeks, political parties and human rights organisations have protested the ministry's decision and urged the government to recognise the Communist Party.

"We were informed that our party will be licensed," said

Yacoub Zayad, general secretary of the party.

It took effect Sept. 1.

Apart from the state-controlled economic system espoused by the communists, which is at odds with Jordan's entrepreneurial system, their secular Marxist philosophy is also out of step with a constitutional provision that stipulates Islam as the state religion.

Dr. Zayad said: "We're content with the ministry's decision."

He said the party was legalised after several meetings with a ministerial committee headed by Sharif Zeid.

Last month, the Ministry of Interior rejected applications for licences by two leftist groups — because their manifestos were also considered at odds with the Kingdom's Constitution and laws.

The communists, banned for four decades, came out of the shadows under a new law permitting

## Jordanian businessman denies role in alleged BNL-Iraq scam

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Jordanian businessman who has been mentioned as a possible key player in alleged Iraqi exploitation of billions of dollars in U.S. government-guaranteed credit to procure weapons has denied any involvement in the case, saying that he has been turned into a scapegoat of internal American politics.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Wafai Dajani, who operates a conglomerate of commodity trading and shipping agents based in Amman, categorically rejected suggestions in the American and British media that he was the middleman between the Iraqi government and the scandal-

plagued Atlanta branch of the Rome-based Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL).

BNL Atlanta is under investigation and its ex-manager Christopher Drogouli is on trial for allegedly channelling up to \$1 billion in American credits — mostly through the Department of Agriculture — to arming Iraq during the latter part of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Dajani has been named by the independent counsel investigation report of the BNL case, a copy of which was obtained by the Jordan Times, as an "unindicted co-conspirator in the action."

The BNL-Atlanta case is based on an argument that Mr. Drogouli was personally involved in a massive scam under which American wheat and rice were shipped to Aqaba for onward transportation to Iraq.

The Wall Street Journal's report pointed to Mr. Dajani

as the man with "too many footprints in the messy BNL affair." It quoted Democratic Representative Henry B. Gonzales of Texas, chairman of the House of Representatives Banking Committee, as saying that he suspected that "Mr. Dajani somehow diverted U.S. commodity shipments to Russia, where he bartered them for tanks for Iraq."

Mr. Dajani asked why the U.S. government would not investigate these allegations with Russian leader Boris Yeltsin's administration directly.

"As the Yeltsin regime is very friendly with the U.S., why not ask the Russians about diversion of the wheat to Russia in exchange for arms?"

As for Mr. Gonzales's statements, Mr. Dajani said the

successful Arab," he maintained. He named New York Times columnist William Safire, who "represents the Israeli extreme right," as one of the main people working against him. "He has gone all the way to make this story far bigger than what it really is."

Prosecutors in the BNL-Atlanta case did not indict Mr. Dajani for lack of evidence against him. In response to questioning by Congress over this decision, however, the prosecutors said that "if the ongoing investigation produces additional evidence against Dajani, the decision not to charge Dajani can be revised."

The prosecutors, in their

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# Middle East News

## U.N. food saves Somali village from starvation

BU'ALE, Somalia (R) — U.N. food drops have staved off starvation from this remote Somali village, isolated for months by floods, mines and clan warfare.

"It's a success story. We are sustaining the population, but it's not enough," said Geoff Lewis, emergency officer for the World Food Programme (WFP), on a visit to Bu'ale Saturday.

"There is no chronic malnourishment here, but there is malaria, scabies, other infections and some malnutrition."

Only mangoes were abundant in the few stalls doing business in Bu'ale market, but small quantities of wheat, red beans, tea, coffee beans, salt and vegetable oil were also on sale.

The WFP, a U.N. agency, dropped 21 tonnes of wheat in December and another 54 tonnes earlier this month to the 5,000 people remaining in Bu'ale and three nearby villages.

The airdrops should tide them over until they can harvest crops of maize and sorghum in two weeks' time.

Residents said three-quarters of Bu'ale's original population of 5,000 had already left, trudging through the thornbush scrub in search of food in distant towns.

"We ate mangoes for breakfast, dinner and supper," said Jamal Bashir, a merchant. "Children and old people were dying."

Mr. Bashir, like most people here, currently has no work. "No money, no car — no food — no business," he explained.

When Mr. Lewis surveyed Bu'ale on Dec. 1, he found people with nothing to eat but unripe mangoes, weeds and roots.

Now better-fed, the villagers clustered round, smiling and joking as Mr. Lewis tasted a root. "A bit like raw potato," he said.

Virtually all the concrete buildings in Bu'ale are roofless hulks, devastated by fighting and looting.

Villagers live in thatched mud huts. About 200 displaced nomads have built a settlement on the outskirts, scavenging cardboard and corrugated iron to make crude shelter.

Scores of them wandered out to greet Mr. Lewis when he landed with reporters in a small U.N. plane on a baboon-infested dirt airdrop zone cleared from the bush by villages.

Good rains have helped the sorghum stems grow to a healthy two metres high. Some came from local seed and some from Tanzanian varieties donated by the International Committee of the Red Cross in September.

Mr. Lewis hopes the farmers will trade their surplus local grain for WFP-provided cooking oil. Before the next planting season the agency would redistribute the grain stock to other lower Juba villages which have lost their seed stores to looters.

"We are looking to start development work as soon as possible," Mr. Lewis said. "Once people get fed, we can turn to water projects, tools, health clinic and livestock."

"We have already started food-for-work programmes in Baidoa. We don't want people to be reliant for ever. Free food handouts have to be a short-term thing," he added.

The WFP and other relief agencies want to help people back to their farms and pastures now that the U.S.-led task force has reopened supply routes to towns like Baidoa, Hodur, Wajit and Kisimayu, which drew in thousands of starving Somalis.

Mr. Lewis said food distribution in those places had also acted as a magnet to bandits and looters. Relief groups keen to repatriate 400,000 Somali refugees from Kenya had to take care not to create new centres of instability unwittingly.

"We want to keep them dispersed. Food aid can attract insecurity, so we have to be cautious," he said.

## Americans split on Iraq raid

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Almost half of Americans think the U.S. air attacks on Iraqi military sites were appropriate but almost as many feel the response should have been stronger, according to a poll released Saturday.

The Newsweek magazine poll also said 49 per cent of respondents felt there should be another, larger attack on Iraqi military sites if Iraqi provocations continue, and that some eight in 10 Americans support military action to force Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein from power.

President Saddam's defiant messages shortly after UNA air defenses "repulsed enemy targets" — presumably allied reconnaissance jets — three times over the northern air exclusion zone.

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President George Bush said the attacks were in retaliation for Baghdad's continued violations of ceasefire terms reached after the 1991 Gulf war, during which U.S.-led forces reversed Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Eighty-two per cent of those polled supported resumed attacks to force the Iraqi leader from power while 15 per cent were opposed. The support was the highest for President Saddam's ouster of any of seven polls conducted by the magazine over nearly two years.

But 46 per cent of Americans would support normal relations with Iraq if it stopped violating the ceasefire provisions. Forty-seven per cent were opposed.

The poll also showed that 68 per cent approved of how President-elect Bill Clinton has handled his transition to power thus far, eighteen per cent disapproved.

The telephone poll of 753 adults was conducted Jan. 14-15 by the Gallup organisation for the magazine. The margin of error was four percentage points either way.

## U.S. hits Baghdad with missiles

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was taking off south of the 36th Parallel, the boundary of the zone, in a formation with other aircraft.

Mr. Fliegwater said allied forces also hit an Iraqi surface-to-air missile battery after a radio "locked on" to an allied plane. The Iraqis said the town of Tal-Afar, about 60 kilometres west of the city of Mosul, was attacked with.

On Wednesday, more than 100 U.S., British and French warplanes attacked Iraqi missile bases in and near the southern zone as Baghdad confronted the West in a dispute over the "no-fly" zones and compliance with U.N. Security Council resolutions.

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## Minister lowers profit on parts

AMMAN (Petra) — Wholesale and retail merchants of auto spare parts can now make a total of 27 per cent profit on the total cost of parts sold to the public, Minister of Supply, Mohammad Saqaf, declared Sunday. This reflects an adjustment to the 25 per cent profit announced at the end of last month.

The profit ceiling for auto spare parts should not exceed 27 per cent, to be distributed between the wholesale and retail stores in the Kingdom, said the minister in a statement. The 27 per cent profit should be calculated on the total cost of the imported item, which takes into account the cost of the item, customs duty, transportation, in-

surance and banking expenses, as well as other fees, statement said.

Two weeks ago the Minister announced that the cost of spare parts for all types of vehicles be reduced by five per cent in the 1993.

The minister, announcing the adjustment at a meeting with auto spare parts merchants, said their profit should be reduced from 30 to 25 per cent on all parts.

Sunday's statement said that all spare parts for sale at stores should carry clearly displayed price tags or be listed in a register for customers to see.

Merchants refusing to sell any spare parts found in their stores would be violating the Supply

Ministry laws, the statement said. It said that should spare parts agents declare that they are lacking the required spare parts, they must issue a note to the customer to this effect and try to supply the missing part within 45 days.

At his meeting with the merchants, the minister was quoted as saying that the current economic circumstances facing the country and the Jordanian people require merchants to contribute towards alleviating the financial burdens already on car owners.

He called on agents and dealers to make available all types of parts requested by car owners, and added that the Ministry of Supply would do all its best to protect the consumers' interests within the law.

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF



#### Regent visits Prime Ministry

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, the Regent, Sunday visited the Prime Ministry where he had a meeting with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker. The meeting dwelt on several domestic issues.

#### Queen joins Arbor Day celebrations

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor will Thursday take part in planting forest tree saplings in an area near Amman-Yajour road as part of a tree planting ceremony organised by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature. The ceremony, which is held as part of Jordan's celebrations of Arbor Day, is part of a scheme aimed at greening Jordan by the year 2000. The area which will be planted Thursday will be called the Queen Noor Forest.

#### Abu Jaber meets Japanese team

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber Sunday received members of the Japanese Parliament's investigation committee, which is in charge of investigating international disputes. Dr. Abu Jaber briefed them on Jordan's stand towards the peace process and stressed the Kingdom's adherence to the principles which serve as a basis for the peace process.

#### Lower House committee discusses laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament's judiciary committee met Sunday under its chairman Salim Al Zu'bi and discussed the youth welfare draft law. Deputy Zu'bi said four articles of the law were so far approved by the committee which will resume its discussion of the law next Saturday. The committee has also approved three articles of an amendment to the municipalities law, he said. Mr. Zu'bi said the committee was debating the issue of the independence of the three authorities and the powers of the Lower House's committees. This issue was highlighted in the House's meeting last week when Agriculture Minister Fayed Al Khasawneh complained of a visit by the House's agriculture committee to several of his ministry's departments. The deputies voted to refer the issue to the judiciary committee to decide on it.

#### YWCA urges support for Palestinians

AMMAN (I.T.) — Jordan's Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) Sunday called on the world YWCA in 84 countries to join forces in support of the 415 Palestinians expelled a month ago to South Lebanon. In an appeal sent out by the YWCA in Amman, the YWCA called on all non-governmental organisations and YWCA all over the world to pressure Israel into returning the expellees to their homeland. The appeal said the expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland constituted a flagrant violation of human rights charters.

#### ILO team arrives Friday

AMMAN (Petra) — A fact-finding team representing the International Labour Organisation (ILO) will arrive in Amman Friday on a four-day visit to Jordan. The team will meet with Jordanian officials in order to be familiarised with Israel's repressive practices against Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In its meeting with Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti, the team will discuss a report prepared by Jordan on Israeli malpractices against Arab labourers.

#### Amendments sought to customs law

AMMAN (I.T.) — A joint committee from the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and Amman Chamber of Industry Sunday discussed the proposed sales tax which is now being examined by the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Customs Department. The committee agreed to prepare a memorandum to the minister of finance/customs requesting him to make some amendments to the customs law.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITION

Exhibition entitled "Latin American Countries in France" at the French Cultural Centre.

### FILM

French film entitled "La Femme d'arote" at the French Cultural Centre — 8 p.m.

### DIALOGUE

Dialogue, in Arabic, with the secretary general of the Jordanian National Alliance at the Islamic Action Research and Studies Centre — 5:30 p.m.

## All draft laws to go to new council

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Sunday approving the creation of a new department at the Prime Ministry to be known as "the Legislation and Opinion" Council whose views are to be consulted on every draft law or regulation before it can be enforced.

Comprising a group of experts on legal and economic issues, the council will consist of three departments: a department of legislation, a department on modernisation legislation, and a legal department, according to a statement.

The statement said the council will be directly linked to the Prime Minister and will be conducting studies on draft laws and regulations that are referred to it. The council will have the authority to introduce amendments to provisions included in draft laws,

and can redraft those laws which are referred to it by the Prime Minister.

The statement said that the council will also contribute towards modernising various legislation in Jordan, organising seminars and lectures, and offering opinions and advice on various legal issues concerning government departments and public institutions especially, where differences of opinion or difference in the application of laws occur.

The statement said the council would also draft decisions and regulations upon the request of the Prime Minister.

All draft laws or regulations concerning the public interest should first be endorsed by the council, the statement said.

According to the statement, the council came into being on Jan. 16, 1993.

## Workshop addresses nuclear accidents

AMMAN (I.T.) — The Jordan Economic and Social Organisation for Retired Servicemen (JESORS) Sunday won a contract from the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) to conduct an urban development project in the city of Aqaba.

Under the terms of the agreement JESORS will redevelop an estimated 125,000 square metres on which shopping centres and residential areas now stand, at a cost of JD 1 million. JESORS engineers will demolish and reconstruct housing units, and lay asphalt roads of 17,500 square metres for pedestrians and motorists.

The renovation will include a water network of 8,000 metres, sewerage system of 6,495 metres, and a 5,460 metres canal to drain waste water.

JESORS will also install a power telephone network; build retaining walls, public garden and other facilities under the agreement which will be implemented within 14 months, according to Department Director Yousef Hayasat.

Mr. Hayasat, who signed the deal with the JESORS director said the project, the third of its kind in the port city, was designed to develop the old quarters of Aqaba.

JESORS prepared the plans and the blueprints for the project, and the infrastructure for social centres and schools, said Mr. Hayasat. He said this is the third project to be executed by the department after the Shalaleh and Salahuddin development schemes also carried out in Aqaba.

Mr. Hayasat said that the department plans to embark on a fourth project in the north of the old city during the coming three months, and a tender for the project has already been announced.

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## Jordan Times

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## Fireworks vs cruise missiles

THE RENEWED attack against Iraq, although limited in nature, is likely to raise tension even further in the area, and on such basis alone it has to be deplored in the strongest terms. The choice of target makes last night's attack all the more reprehensible, in fact, since it is the responsibility of the U.N., and not American cruise missiles, to dismantle Iraq's nuclear facilities or what is left of them. For President Bush and his administration to take international legitimacy and U.N. resolutions into their own hands can only mean that the U.S. has indeed appointed itself 'world policeman' and not a world leader.

The launch of some 40 cruise missiles from ships in the Gulf and the Red Sea against Zafraniyah was called in Washington yesterday the "simplest and safest" option in a grand strategy to weaken the Iraqi regime and its mass-destruction weapon programme. That Turkey and Saudi Arabia might have opposed the use of their territories by U.S. forces to attack Iraq flew, thus leading Washington to opt for the missiles, was played down to the point of ignoring the whole question by official spokesman. We can only conclude from this that Washington's real options are not much better than to pick a fight with Iraq, whatever the inherent circumstances.

While we are opposed to any provocations instigated by Baghdad against the U.S. and its allies, simply because tension with the West is not in Iraq's best interests, we remain convinced that the outgoing U.S. president still does things in a fashion that shows he has an axe to grind with President Saddam. Bush will neither forget nor forgive Saddam — certainly not in the last hours of his presidency. But the continuing showdown can be in neither country's interest, especially with the unjustly and unfairly imposed "no-fly" zones in the north and south of Iraq. The new U.S. president has to take into consideration that weakening Iraq as a country, or risking its disintegration into states, will bring harm not just to this region and its countries but to U.S. interests here. The West should not have expected Iraq to give up the Umm Qasr port without a fight, albeit as symbolic as that of sending unarmed men to retrieve Iraqi equipment. Nor should have the myopic Kuwaitis accepted to take it back from Iraq under the threat of U.S. cruise missiles and Stealth bombers. Nor should have U.S. allies, particularly those who are ever enthusiastic about jumping on the American bandwagon, accepted the tragic turn of events in the Gulf without one solid question being asked on the wisdom of Washington's actions.

Fireworks for Washington and cruise missiles for Iraq simply do not tally.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

TODAY MARKS the second anniversary of the U.S.-led aggression on Iraq, an aggression that opened the door for the Western nations to launch a series of attacks on the Iraqi people and pursue the evil task of starving their children, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday. The paper said that peace-loving nations would never forget that it was Jordan which had tried to stop the tragedy that befell the Iraqi people and prevent the bombs from falling on the women and children, by attempting to solve the dispute with Kuwait through an Arab-Arab dialogue. It is also to be remembered that Jordan's good mediation was ignored and its efforts were aborted, said the daily. Despite the tragedy and the divisions among the Arab countries, the paper said, Jordan has continued and will continue to have faith in the strong ties that bind the Arabs together; Jordan is continually trying to re-establish solidarity among the Arab states because for Jordan a pan-Arab unity remains the ultimate goal. There is no doubt that the developments in the region and the continued aggression on Iraq and the U.S. threats against the Arabs should prompt the Arabs to re-unify their ranks and transcend their differences and the negative effects of the Gulf crisis, the paper said. It noted that the common enemies of the Arab nation are continually trying to divide the Arabs while Jordan will continue to do all it can to bring them together.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Sunday accused the American media in general and the Gallup Centre for Public Opinion polls in particular as fabricating figures about the public views in the United States. Khaled Mahadin said that according to the polls, 83 per cent of Americans support aggression on Iraq and 46 per cent demand the liquidation of Saddam Hussein, but that could never be true since the Americans elected Clinton and not Bush to become president and decided not to support the ongoing president's policies against Iraq. If the figures were true, however, the world should expect a grim future since, based on the polls, 300 million Americans would be characterised as murderers using all sophisticated weapons to destroy other nations in the years to come, noted the writer. He said that he was sure that 83 per cent of the Americans do not know anything about Iraq and that 46 per cent are not interested in the Gulf region. The writer said that by electing Clinton, the Americans have voted for someone who wants to address domestic affairs which have been neglected, causing unfold sufferings for millions of Americans. He said that the lies and the poisoned propaganda campaigns that have been fed to the American people did not succeed in helping Bush to retain his post at the White House.

A YEAR ago this week the Algerian army deposed President Chadli Benjedid and cancelled the second ballot of parliamentary elections, due to take place a few days later.

It was, on the face of it, an outrageous thing to do, just after the decisive political victory of liberal democracy over Soviet communism: in eastern Europe and the decisive military victory of the western democracies over the army of an Arab dictator in the Gulf war. Surely the same western democracies that had put great pressure on governments elsewhere in Africa to accept multi-party elections would not tolerate such a blatant abortion of the electoral process on the very fringe of western Europe?

They did, of course, and the reason is not secret. The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was virtually certain to win an overall majority if the second ballot had gone ahead. During the cold war, the West would turn a blind eye to authoritarian practices if the

alternative seemed likely to be a communist or pro-communist government. Now, it seems, the same rule applies, only for "communist" read "Islamic fundamentalist."

In the case of communism, there was a double rationale for this attitude. On the one hand, the expansion of communism, by whatever means, was seen as threatening western security. On the other, it was argued that a communist victory, even through the ballot box, would in fact be a defeat for democracy, since a communist government would not allow any more free elections.

This second argument has been used explicitly in the Algerian case by a senior U.S. official, Mr. Edward Djerejian, who said there would be no overwhelming merit in a system of "one person, one vote, one time."

It has some plausibility, in that some of the FIS leaders had openly that they did not believe in multi-party democracy, and it was doubtful whether the disre-

dited Mr. Benjedid would have been strong enough to hold them to the constitution once they were in office.

A year later, however, the claim by the army to have saved democracy from itself is looking thin. Thousands of Islamic militants are in prison (and Amnesty International has again begun to receive regular reports of torture), but there are enough still at large to carry on nightly gun battles with the security forces in many parts of the country. There is no sign of new elections being held. Even in economic policy the regime has reverted to 1970s-style dirigisme.

The West's willingness to support such a regime suggests that Islamic fundamentalism has also replaced communism in the other half of the cold war rationale. It is seen as a threat not only to Algerian liberties but also to western security. John Esposito, a leading U.S. specialist on Islam, shows in a new book, *The Islamic*

*Threat: Myth or Reality?*, that this view is indeed held by many influential people in the U.S.

It is probably even more widely held in Europe. The normally sober Economist magazine, in its imaginative history of the 21st century published last month (see story below) sees new Arab-Islamic superpower, with Iran and Pakistan as satellites, conquering Turkey and southeast Europe, and going on in alliance with China to subdue large parts of Russia.

The Economist imagined this superpower starting with a coup in Saudi Arabia in 2011. But it also assumes that an isolationist U.S. will confine its interest to a "tranquil, fairly prosperous and almost wholly democratic" western hemisphere, while western Europe, protected by its nuclear deterrent, suffers only an influx of Russian refugees.

There is a tragic irony here. The French scholar Olivier Roy is much gloomier about what Islamic movements have to offer their own people. But the title of his book, *The Failure of Political Islam* (*L'échec de l'islam politique*), is also implicitly reassuring from a selfish western point of

view. Mr. Roy, who was an admirer of Islamic politics in its revolutionary phase, recounts sadly how such movements have retreated during the 1980s into what he calls "neo-fundamentalism", or even "lumpen-Islamism", led by less well-educated people who interpret Islam as an austere and joyless life-style rather than a recipe for social liberation.

Mr. Roy takes it for granted that the FIS will come to power in Algeria sooner or later. But he says, it would change only the law and less morals — not so much actual morals as the code of public, or publicly admirable, behaviour. "It no longer offers any model of a different society or a better tomorrow."

Algeria under such a government would be more like Saudi Arabia than Iran. Not perhaps the ideal neighbour one would wish for, but hardly a significant threat to European security — Financial Times.

## Cold war warmed over

By Edward Mortimer

### Looking back from 2992

## The disastrous 21st century

half a century earlier.

### The new giants

Out of this confusion arose two new great powers, which between them came to dominate the 22nd and 23rd centuries. The first — predictably, though not many people realised in time when the statistics were pointing — was China.

The Chinese economy could not quite keep up the 9 per cent real annual growth rate it had reached in the 1980s; that period, the opening up of agriculture and small industry, was the easy one. But even when it faced the more difficult task of building a modern mass-production industry on the market system, China continued to grow faster than any other big country, sometimes by a margin of two or three percentage points a year. Since it had over a billion people, that made it a great economic power by the 2020s; and, since it already possessed nuclear weapons, and was now able to pay for formidable non-nuclear armed forces as well, it became a new superpower.

Since the United States was now gentler in its treatment of other Americans, the new version was better than the old. The United States itself took a few decades to get used to its narrower horizons, and to sort out its internal problems. But by the mid-2000s the western hemisphere as a whole was tranquil, fairly prosperous and almost wholly democratic — an undogmatic association of free-trading nations protected by its encircling oceans (and the nuclear armoury of the United States) from the turmoil elsewhere. Even Quebec eventually joined the Pan-American Free Trade Area, on condition its name be spelt with an accent sign.

This relatively contented western hemisphere was, alas, no model for the rest of the world. There, the consequences of the disintegration of the pluralist alliance began to work themselves out, one by one. It was no longer possible to hope, as many had hoped at the start of the 1990s, that the democracies might sometimes send their soldiers to save people from the terrible events of that time — in some countries mass starvation and its accompanying banditry, in others a brutal suppression of democracy by military dictators. Elsewhere the collapse of all organised government. The Joint Interim Regime in Somalia (1993-98) showed what could be done. It distributed the food that saved several million people from death, rebuilt the country's infrastructure, and administered the place until the election of governments for the two countries into which the Somalis decided to divide themselves. But the Somalia intervention was the last of its kind.

Intervention cost money, and lives. If this was hard for the democracies to accept when they were still allies who shared the burden, it became impossible when they had broken up. The idea that the rest of the world might be helped along the road to freedom and prosperity faded from people's thoughts. After the failure in Yugoslavia, western Europe began to lower a mental curtain between itself and events east of Vienna. The guiding lamp of democracy grew dim. Dictators everywhere took new heart; the doctrine that sovereignty permitted abuse of human rights — *cuius regio eius potestas* — took new root.

As it was, the West Europeans applied to all three members of the victorious coalition — the United States, the European Community and Japan. They could, if they wished, have brought a share of liberty and prosperity to much of the rest of the world by the end of the 21st century. They did wish it. But they failed to see that to succeed they had to remain a partnership. Now China had to decide what its relations should be with the other new great power of the 21st century. This was the force that burst upon the world, almost as explosively as a similar phenomenon had done 1,400 years earlier, out of the long-sleek Muslim World: the New Caliphate, as amused outsiders called it until they learnt not to joke.

The failure of Muslims to match the political and economic advance of the democracies had puzzled the 19th and 20th centuries. These people had, after all, an earlier history of dazzling achievement; more recently many of them had shown great skill in science and the arts; and, since the early 20th century, their lands had contained most of the industrial world's chief sources of energy. All they lacked, it seemed, was the right combination of circumstances for organising themselves into a coherent political power.

China's economy could not quite keep up the 9 per cent real annual growth rate it had reached in the 1980s; that period, the opening up of agriculture and small industry, was the easy one. But even when it faced the more difficult task of building a modern mass-production industry on the market system, China continued to grow faster than any other big country, sometimes by a margin of two or three percentage points a year. Since it had over a billion people, that made it a great economic power by the 2020s; and, since it already possessed nuclear weapons, and was now able to pay for formidable non-nuclear armed forces as well, it became a new superpower.

The revolutionaries in ex-Saudi Arabia, now the Islamic Republic of Arabia, offered to share the Gulf's oil wealth with other Muslims in return for a foreign-policy alliance and a joint army. Most of eastern Islam stayed aloof, but almost all the Arabs joined the movement: Iran found it expedient to compromise; and even Pakistan made a contribution to the army. The driving force was not religion, though that created the movement's sense of identity. It was hypernationalism, another region's demand to stride upon the stage.

The first victim was Turkey, a country accused of betraying its fellow Muslims in pursuit of the false western idea of democracy. A bungled British-French expedition to Antioch (2014) failed to prevent the invasion of Turkey. The forces of the New Caliphate swept up the Bosphorus and, in the war of the Sanjak (2016), established their first bridgehead in south-eastern Europe.

The main target, however, was the decaying corpse of Russia, itself a fragment of the broken Soviet Union; and here the New Caliphate found the basis for the alliance with China that was to shape the next two centuries. The Chinese wanted to recover the Siberian territories they had lost to Russia in the "unequal treaties" of the 19th century. The new Muslim power started by wanting to remove the last Russian influence from the Muslim southern parts of the ex-Soviet Union; and then, having achieved that, found itself pushing still further north. China supplied most of the weapons the Caliphate needed. The Caliphate provided China with a secure western flank.

By the mid-21st century, all this had been accomplished, because there was nobody to forbid it. The Americans politely repeated that the rest of the world was no business of theirs. The West Europeans, divided, isolated and divided, did not intervene. India, intimidated by the new Muslim power and weakened by the secession of some of its north-western states, was helpless. Africa south of the Sahara had for the moment vanished out of history.

The Russians, after years of economic disorder and short-lived governments, were in no position to resist. Their army was demoralised, and they did not use their decrepit nuclear weapons for fear of an overwhelming

Chinese response. In two brief campaigns Russia's borders were pushed back to the Ural and to an uneasy line running from the central Urals to the Sea of Azov. The exodus of refugees added to the pressures on western Europe. The Chinese-Muslim alliance knowing the Europeans still had a powerful nuclear force, cautiously decided to push its expansion no further, but it had become the new superpower.

The end of the cycle

Looking back from 2992, one can see why the democracies used the great opportunity they were given in the 1990s. The fact that they had had to spend the 20th century fighting their two-front War of Ideas, against communism and fascism, was itself a sign that a cycle of history was approaching its end. The democracies needed to re-examine the ideas that had created this cycle: but they left the re-examination too late.

These democracies were the product of a period that had begun 500 years earlier in the pair of events known as the Renaissance and the Reformation. That was when the rights and responsibilities of the individual began to be asserted against the spirit of authority that had dominated the previous era. It was also when the power of rationality reasserted itself after an Age of Faith. Both of these were necessary changes, and between them they produced the European-American culture, that shaped the next millennium. But, as usual, the changes that corrected past errors went too far, and became new errors.

By the 18th century it was being argued that man had now reached an Age of Reason, in which human beings could understand and master every aspect of their lives. This proved false. It led, among other things, to the French revolution of 1789 and the Russian revolution of 1917, both of which claimed to speak for human rights but in fact crushed them, and both of which did irrational things in the name of reason.

The fascist upheaval of the 1920s and 1930s was in part a reaction to this, a violent return to the idea that blood and feeling were the true guides to human action. Nationalism, and its son hyper-nationalism, were milder versions of the same reaction.

It was time for a readjustment. A new balance was needed between the analytic part of the human mind and the instinctive part, between rationality and feeling; only then could man address the world more steadily. And a new bargain had to be struck between the claims of individual freedom and the claims of a universal morality; only then could law and liberty swing evenly on the scales. Because they did not tackle these problems in time, the democracies marched straight from the climax of their 20th-century victory into anti-climax.

They did not know what to do. It is easy in 2992 to say this. Today's 3 billion people have managed, at least in part, to do those rebalancings. And they have seen China and the Muslims move into their own new period of division and uncertainty. Russia reassembles itself; America come back into the world; and Europe settle for prosy but workable reality. The conditions of a Pax Democratica have at last arrived. If only the people of 1992 had seen what their distant descendants could do.

al-Ja'la

## Businessman denies role in scam

(Continued from page 1)  
one-paragraph answer to the Judiciary Committee at the House of Representatives, which was obtained by the Jordan Times, say that "prosecutors involved in the case— who are all career professionals— agreed that the evidence available at the time of the indictment was not sufficient to support criminal charges against Dajani," the Aug. 1992 report added.

In the 10-page preliminary investigation report by the independent counsel, the investigators say that the prosecutors' decision not to indict Mr. Dajani was supported by the Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney's Office, which "agree that at the time, they had insufficient evidence to indict him on a 'BNL as victim' theory."

Mr. Dajani's Amman Resources—commodity trading, shipping and terminalling agents company—became the main handlers for Iraqi-bound wheat and rice through Aqaba in 1984 at the height of the Iran-Iraq war when Iraq's ports in the Gulf were blocked. Mr. Dajani, who is married to an American, was living in Washington at the time.

According to Mr. Dajani, attention focused on him after his company solved a recurring problem faced by the Iraqis in transporting three million tonnes of commodities—one million each—from the U.S., Canada and Australia to Iraq. Shipments of grain were transported by small vessels with 25,000-tonne capacity and waited at the ports until they were offloaded.

To solve the problem, Mr. Dajani's company maintained a 75,000-tonne ship, the Tanga, as a floating silo in Aqaba. The ship was equipped with vacuum hoses which would empty the grain into a fleet of 1,700 Jordanian and Iraqi trucks which would carry the grain to Iraq.

"This amounted to tremendous savings for Iraq," which, according to Mr. Dajani, was paying \$100 million in demurrage because of congestion in the ports of Iskandariyah (Turkey), Aqaba and Kuwait. "The cost of shipping was reduced to a third."

"We were providing an impeccable service for transporting wheat and rice not only from America to Iraq but also from Canada and Australia," he said adding that it was the success of this operation which

brought attention to his person and company.

"The bulk of two items, wheat and rice, created the need for major shipping and that is when we came in," Mr. Dajani said. At that time a specialised team of the Central Bank of Iraq and Rafidain Bank were asking for quotations from American banks on the agricultural credits to Iraq. "And the banking community sought to finance Iraqi purchases because it was guaranteed by the U.S. government."

BNL-Atlanta, according to Mr. Dajani, had slightly lower rates and "that is why it covered the largest percentage of Iraqi financing." Mr. Dajani was introduced to BNL management by the Iraqis and "we consequently became good friends."

It was his friendship with BNL-Atlanta manager Drogouli which caused him negative press coverage, he says.

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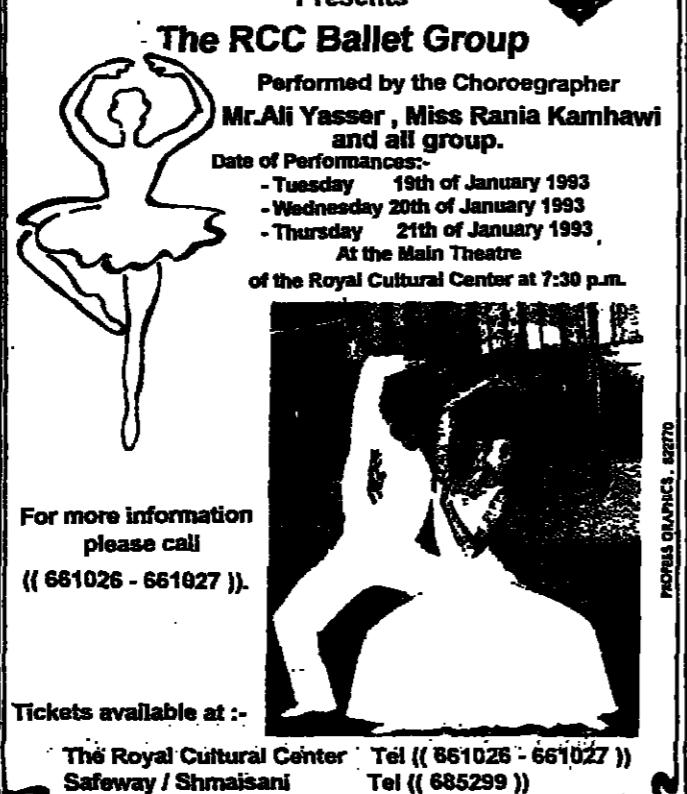
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## Evictees

(Continued from page 1)

there was no problem."

Mr. Drogouli, who initially pleaded guilty to fraud charges and is facing a possible jail term of more than 300 years, retained a new lawyer in August of last year. The new attorney successfully moved to change Mr. Drogouli's guilty plea, according to the Wall Street Journal's report. His case will be heard in court in April.

Mr. Dajani summed up his role in the affair as attempting to "bridge understanding between Iraq and the U.S." on the subject of trade development.

"There was a convergence of interest between the two countries and since Iraq was a closed society, I, as a businessman, recognised this convergence and operated with the full knowledge and coordination of both countries," he said.

Some holding copies of the Koran above their heads, the 413 men marched in silence Sunday about one kilometre to a rocky hilltop overlooking Israel's self-declared "security zone."

They sat down in the road and prayed while Israel's militia allies brought in reinforcements and Israeli troops stood ready with fire hoses to force them back from Zemraya crossing point.

The U.N. Security Council should be ashamed of itself," Dr. Rantisi told the men. "How can it implement resolutions on Iraq but silently watch Israeli terrorism?"

The Palestinians stopped about 400 metres from the nearest tanks of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia, which moved up 100 metres during the march until they were 600 metres north of the crossing.

## JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Special Issue No. 1



Drawing of Jan. 17, 1993

### Winning Tickets

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 5,000 each wins JD 500

16240 16859 16949 17849 26849

16848 16839 16749 15849 06849

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 3,500 each wins JD 350

16240 16859 16949 17849 26849

16848 16839 16749 15849 06849

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 5,000 each wins JD 500

87006 89105 89105 88005 99005

89004 89095 89095 88005 99005

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 4,000 each wins JD 400

77833 17842 17932 18832 27832

17831 17832 17732 16832 27832

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 3,000 each wins JD 300

08276 08225 08375 09275 18275

08274 08265 08175 07275 98275

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 2,000 each wins JD 200

52376 57385 57475 58375 67375

57374 57365 57275 58375 47375

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 1,400 each wins JD 140

21319 21328 21418 22318 31318

21317 21308 21218 20318 11318

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 1,400 each wins JD 140

04584 04593 04583 05583 14583

04582 04573 04482 02583 94583

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 1,000 each wins JD 100

07540 07559 07549 08549 17549

07548 07539 07449 06549 97549

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 800 each wins JD 80

12455 12464 12554 12454 22454

12453 12444 12354 11454 02454

Twenty consolation prizes totalling JD 600 each wins JD 60

67288 67297 67387 67287 77287

67286 67277 67187 66287 57287

Ticket numbers 75171 (A+B) Win JD 600 each

Ticket numbers 39220 (A+B) Win JD 450 each

### TICKETS ENDING WITH

8339 (A+B) Win JD 100 each 574 (A+B) Win JD 40 each

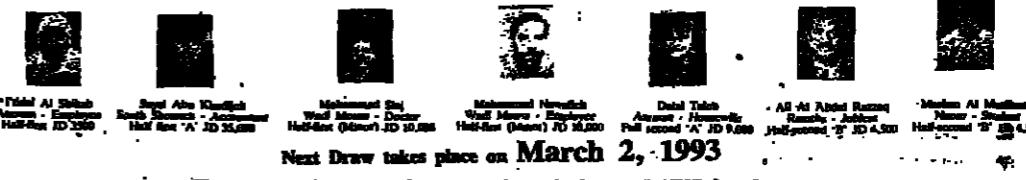
64 (A+B) Win JD 6 each

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## RACJ sets 12 events for upcoming auto sports season

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ) has announced the schedule for the upcoming season with 12 events that are bound to keep auto sports competitors and fans busy and active all year long.

Unlike the 1992 season, which featured only nine events, RACJ's Motor Sports Committee has lined up four autotests, three national rallies, three rallies, in addition to the ever-popular Rumman Hill Climb and the Jordan International Rally to make up the rounds that qualify for the Jordan Drivers Open Championship of 1993.

In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times, RACJ Director Derek Ledger voiced his optimism over the motor sports scene in the Kingdom and said that local drivers are expected to do much better in the future.

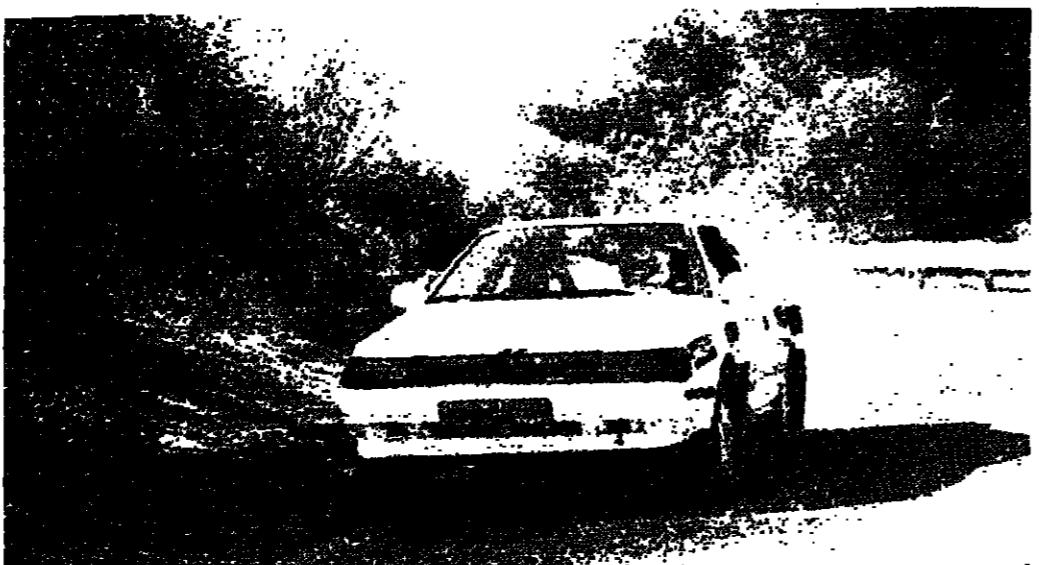
"The 1992 season was very encouraging and everything went according to plan. However we have a more ambitious agenda for 1993," he said. "There are more events this season, organised to suit all tastes and cater for the interests of competitors in all types of motor sports."

"There's a growing interest in motor sports, and many drivers are buying better and stronger cars which will improve their chances of competing for advanced standings. This is a very encouraging sign," added Ledger.

In the upcoming season, only results of all kinds of rallies held in Jordan will be entered in the Drivers Open Championship standings so as to give an equal chance for all competitors. And in order to give drivers an incentive to compete seriously in national and international rallies only group A and N (homologated) cars will get full points for their participation while group S cars will only get half the points.

Over 350 competitors took part in various rallies organised by RACJ last year.

Marwan Abu Hamed won the Driver Open Cham-



Marwan Abu Hamed in his Toyota Celica GT at the Rumman Hill Climb



Majdi Al Jallad



Mahmoud Komok captured third place after he won the National Rally in November

ship of 1992 with 200 points in the overall standings. Reimon Fleifele came in second with 149 points, while Mahmoud Komok finished third with 146.5 points. Majdi Al Jallad finished fourth.

In the co-drivers championship Khalid Zakaria won first place, Sameh Al Jallad came in second and Raed Wakileh finished third.

Ledger, who is the Middle East representative in the (international federation of auto sports) FISA International Rallies Commission, said the RACJ hopes the Jordan International Rally — the biggest

and most prestigious of RACJ's auto sports events — will be successful.

"There will be international stewards from Germany, Cyprus and Sweden, and the chief scrutineer will come from England," said Ledger. "A top FISA official will also be here.

The RACJ announced the 1993 auto sports schedule as follows:

Glassix Autotests	Feb. 12	Glassix Autotests	Aug. 6
Laser National Rally	April 2	Pepi Rumman Hill Climb	Aug. 20
Glassix Autotests	May 2	Rallytour	Sept. 24
Jordan International Rally	May 27-28	Glassix Autotests	Oct. 15
Ferrari Furniture Rallytour	June 1	National Rally	Nov. 26
Danish Dairy National Rally	July 16	VIP Hotline Rallytour	Dec. 17

for the two day rally."

The RACJ will hold a prizegiving ceremony for winners of the 1992 auto-sports season. The ceremony will be held at RACJ headquarters Jan. 27 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein.

Huber looked nervous early,

and Capriati was quick to capitalise. She broke Huber in the first game and kept up the pressure throughout the first set, allowing the German to hold serve only once.

"I've never won a tournament before a Grand Slam. I feel like I'm playing better (than last year)," Capriati said.

She broke Huber for the match when the 18-year-old German hit

## Capriati cruises to NSW Open title

SYDNEY (AP) — Fourth-seeded Jennifer Capriati of the United States outgunned No. 5 Anke Huber of Germany 6-1, 6-4 Sunday to win the New South Wales Open tennis tournament.

It was the second American victory in two days at this \$570,000 warmup for next week's Australian Open. Top-seeded Pete Sampras downed No. 7 Thomas Muster of Austria for the men's title Saturday.

The women's final matched a pair of teenagers who are among the hardest hitters on the tour. Capriati was the steadier of the two in the sweltering heat at the White City complex near downtown Sydney.

It was definitely very hot, but coming from Florida, I was used to it," she said.

Capriati, who bypassed the New South Wales tournament last year, said her going into the Australian Open was the best it had ever been before a Grand Slam.

"I've never won a tournament before a Grand Slam. I feel like I'm playing better (than last year)," Capriati said.

Huber looked nervous early, and Capriati was quick to capitalise. She broke Huber in the first game and kept up the pressure throughout the first set, allowing the German to hold serve only once.

"I've never won a tournament before a Grand Slam. I feel like I'm playing better (than last year)," Capriati said.

She broke Huber for the match when the 18-year-old German hit

a backhand that sailed just long. "She played a very good match and she deserved to win," Huber said. "I didn't play too good today."

Huber ended up with 39 unforced errors to 28 for Capriati. She also had four double faults, while Capriati blasted four aces.

It was the sixth career title for the 16-year-old Capriati, including the Olympic gold medal in Barcelona.

Ivanisevic withdraws from Australian Open

Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia, the fifth seed in the men's singles, has withdrawn from the Australian Open tennis championships, organisers announced Sunday. Ivanisevic has a stress fracture in his right foot and has been advised to rest for five to six weeks, officials said in a statement.

Ivanisevic was drawn to play Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands in the first round of the tournament, which starts Monday. His place against Haarhuis will be taken by Austrian Thomas Muster, the highest-ranked unseeded player in the draw. Ivanisevic's withdrawal means the tournament will be without both of last year's Wimbledon finalists. Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi of the United States withdrew earlier in the week, saying he had bronchitis. Agassi withdrew before the draw was made.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY JANUARY 18, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Jupiter's trine to the Sagittarius moon today can make an office job a real challenge when the urge to play is so compelling. Try keeping coffee-break chat to a low roar. The evening is excellent.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Take time out to get views of good friends for gaining hopes that mean a great deal to you and later make sure you do not expect favour to be handed to you on a silver platter.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Private concerns should give way early to whatever outside matters require your attention but later a secret worry needs to be carefully eliminated.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) New acquaintances can show you the way to more satisfactory pleasures so contact them in the morning but later do nothing to upset your loved one.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A worldly minded person has the answer for solving an unusual condition upsetting you while tonight don't commit yourself to new obligations.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A new understanding with a talented associate who thinks differently from you is now in the works while later stick to proven outlets, solve issues.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Put your attention now upon your money and other practical affairs and you can increase assets while later an older person can hold you back if you permit.

you are good in the morning so look into them but tonight be sure to do tasks so not criticism can come your way.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Conditions come into the open with a charm so go along with this person even though later in the day you need to use care, in expenditures.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your own family members have excellent ideas for improving your activities or even starting new ventures for you but later, have a change of pace.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) The morning brings you good ideas for getting our invitations or communications that are pleasant to congenial companions while later avoid financial discussions.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Arrange home affairs so they are as you want them, see some new aspect and do so quickly as later you find you have personal problems to solve.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Get outsiders more aware of your personal desires and accept their assistance in gaining them; sidestep a worrisome problem arising tonight.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Put your attention now upon your money and other practical affairs and you can increase assets while later an older person can hold you back if you permit.

## Ivanisevic withdraws from Australian Open

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## Final standings in the European Figure Skating Championships

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) — The medal winners of the 1993 European Figure Skating Championships, Jan. 10-17 at the Helsinki Ice Hall. The 1993 European Championships are Jan. 18-23 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

**Men:** Gold — Dmitri Dmitreko, Ukraine. Silver — Philippe Candeloro, France. Bronze — Eric Millet, France.

**Women:** Gold — Surya Bonaly, France. Silver — Oksana Baiul, Ukraine. Bronze — Marina Iliamna, Germany.

**Men:** Gold — Marina Eltsova and Andrei Buskov, Russia. Silver — Mandy Woetzel and Ingo Steuer, Germany. Bronze — Evgenia Shishkova and Vadim Naumov, Russia. Ice dance.

**Gold:** — Maia Usova and Aleksandr Zhulin, Russia. Silver — Oksana Gritschuk and Evgeni Platov, Russia. Bronze — Susanna Rahkamo and Petri Kokko, Finland.

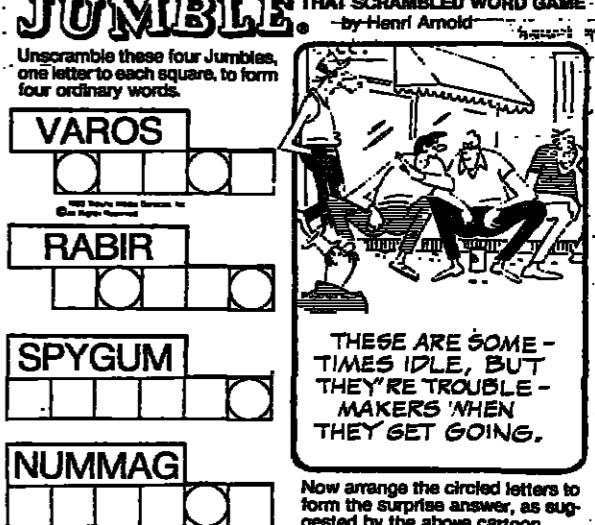
## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

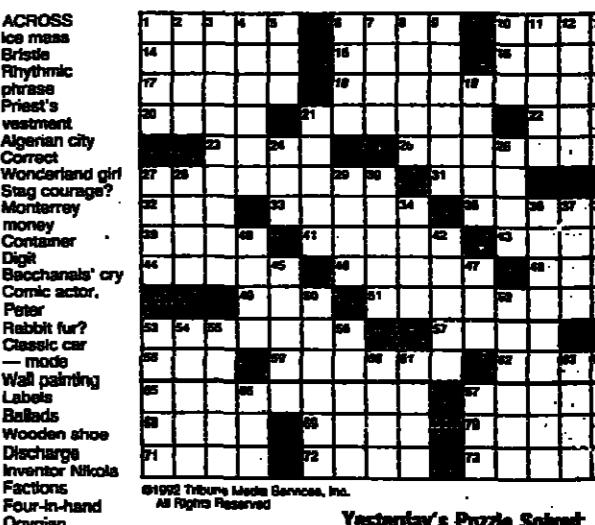
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: TESTY HURRY COLUMN KINDLY

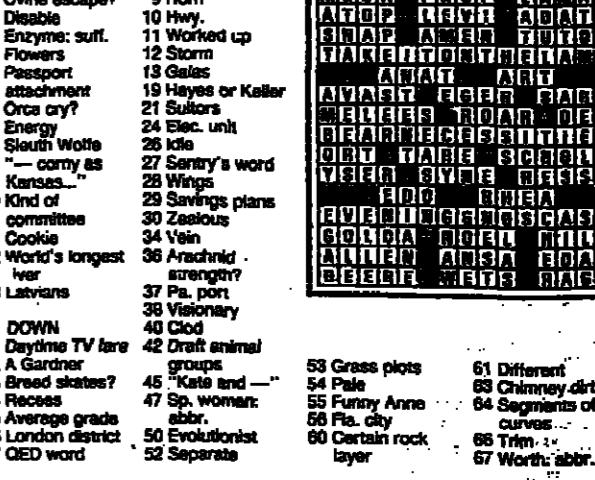
Answer: What ducks try to do—DUCK HUNTERS

## THE Daily Crossword

by David J. Pastan



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



53 Grass plots 61 Different

54 Pales 62 Chimney dirt

55 Funny Anne 64 Segments of curves

56 Flax 65 Trim

57 Latvians 66 Worth a shot

58 Dalmatian 67 Worth a shot

59 Dalmatian 68 Worth a shot

60 Certain rock 69 Trim

61 Dalmatian 70 Worth a shot

62 Dalmatian 71 Worth a shot

63 Dalmatian 72 Worth a shot

64 Dalmatian 73 Worth a shot

65 Dalmatian 74 Worth a shot

66 Dalmatian 75 Worth a shot

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76 Dalmatian 85 Worth a shot

77 Dalmatian 86 Worth a shot

78 Dalmatian 87 Worth a shot

79 Dalmatian 88 Worth a shot

80 Dalmatian 89 Worth a shot

81 Dalmatian 90 Worth a shot

82 Dalmatian 91 Worth a shot

83 Dalmatian 92 Worth a shot

84 Dalmatian 93 Worth a shot

85 Dalmatian 94 Worth a shot

86 Dalmatian 95 Worth a shot

## Kuwait assembly backs public fund protection law

KUWAIT (R) — The Kuwaiti parliament Saturday gave preliminary approval to a law aimed at protecting public money following massive losses from the collapse of the emirate's investments in Spain, a senior parliamentarian said.

Hamed Al Jouan, head of the assembly's legislative committee, and the proposed law provides for parliamentary monitoring of state investments for the first time.

Sheikh Jouan said he expected final parliamentary approval Tuesday during second review of the measure and the law would probably take effect about 10 days after that.

"The law means that the national assembly will be informed on a regular basis about the investments of the Kuwaiti government," he told Reuters. "That will keep things, we hope, in better order," he elaborated.

Sheikh Jouan said the law raised the maximum sentence for misuse of public funds to life imprisonment from 10 years and the minimum penalty for the offence to five years from a fine.

"The law reflects the feeling of the Kuwaiti people. They support a law that gives more confidence to Kuwaiti investments," he said.

Grupo Torras, the Spanish unit of the London-based Kuwait Investment Office (KIO), announced it was going into receivership last month, citing \$14 billion in losses.

No such measure is included in the law. Islamic Affairs Minister Jumah Al Azmi said Saturday such strict punishment was appropriate for thieves. Embezzlers ought to be jailed instead,

mean to sustain future generations of Kuwaitis when the country's oil runs out.

Lawyers representing Grupo Torras filed a lawsuit in a Madrid court this month against former Grupo Torras managers for alleged irregularities.

Islamic fundamentalist parliamentarians have suggested strict punishments such as chopping off the hand of anyone found guilty of embezzeling state funds.

Any person proved deliberately to have delayed a report of an investment activity to the audit authorities would be liable to prosecution, Sheikh Jouan said.

**Financial Markets** **Jordan Times**  
in co-operation with  
Cairo Amman Bank

### Foreign Exchange Market Summary (January 11-January 15, 1993)

AMMAN — The dollar retreated in a technical correction during most of last week, but was boosted just before the weekend on rumours of imminent interest rate cuts in Germany and other EMS countries. The U.S. unit ended the week 0.7 per cent lower against the mark, and 0.4 per cent lower against the Swiss franc. Against the yen, the dollar ended 0.5 per cent higher.

The dollar retreated in a technical correction Monday, ending the day well below Friday's levels. Observers noted that traders took profit on their accumulated long dollar positions when the tension passed without a confrontation in the Gulf, and news came that Iraq had withdrawn from the "no-fly" zone. Observers added that the fact that December's U.S. employment results, that were released just before the weekend, were below expectations, was a further impetus for a correction.

Trading remained range bound Tuesday, as market participants awaited in anticipation news of developments in the Gulf, and the release of a new set of U.S. economic data.

The U.S. currency dropped again Wednesday, due to a further round of long-position liquidation, despite the raid on Iraq by the Western allies. Market commentators said that the fact that the attack was swift and ended in a matter of hours meant that market focus was back on economic fundamentals, rather than on safe-haven considerations. The dollar ended the day at its lowest levels of the week at 1.6220 marks.

While the dollar traded in a narrow range Thursday, it rallied, however, after New York opened Friday, on speculation of a concerted European interest rate cut, that could materialize as early as this weekend.

Although some traders were sceptical about the timing, the majority, nevertheless, preferred to cover their short dollar positions ahead of the weekend, particularly as many banks will be closed in the U.S. Monday.

New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	8/1/93 Close	15/1/93 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound*	1.5315	1.5312	10.021%
Deutsche Mark	1.6475	1.6355	0.73%
Swiss Franc	1.5025	1.4970	0.57%
French Franc	5.6050	5.5290	1.36%
Japanese Yen	125.39	126.05	1.021%
USD Per STG			

Currency	8/1/93		15/1/93	
	1-Month (%)	1-Year (%)	1-Month (%)	1-Year (%)
U.S. Dollar	5.10	4.00	2.93	3.56
Sterling Pound	7.10	6.68	7.00	6.56
Deutsche Mark	8.48	7.37	8.50	7.38
Swiss Franc	5.43	5.00	5.50	5.18
French Franc	11.25	9.37	11.75	9.25
Japanese Yen	3.81	3.46	3.81	3.43

Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 17/1/93

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.688	0.690
Sterling Pound	1.0657	1.0710
Deutsche Mark	0.4242	0.4263
Swiss Franc	0.4631	0.4654
French Franc	0.1251	0.1257
Japanese Yen	0.5470	0.5497
Dutch Guilder	0.3772	0.3791
Swedish Krona	0.0934	0.0939
Indian Lira*	0.0458	0.0460
Belgian Franc	0.02045	0.02055

\* No rate

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the official Kuwait News Agency said him as saying.

The new law requires the state and companies in which the state at least a 25 per cent stake to report investment moves to the government's auditing authorities, in some cases within 10 days of carrying out the transaction.

The audit authorities would not have the power to block investments but every six months it would be required to report on the state's investment activities to the assembly.

Any person proved deliberately to have delayed a report of an investment activity to the audit authorities would be liable to prosecution, Sheikh Jouan said.

## Moroccan phosphate group plans major expansion

RABAT (R) — Morocco's billion-dollar phosphate industry is gearing up for a major expansion to satisfy an eventual increase in world demand for fertilisers.

King Hassan of Morocco has said farmers all over the world will eventually have to use fertilisers, especially phosphates, to meet the food needs of an increasing population.

Morocco has 75 per cent of the world's known phosphate reserves. The mainstay of the Moroccan economy, exports of raw rock and by-products are currently worth just over one billion dollars a year.

Energy and Mines Minister Driss Aloua M'Daghrir told a news conference in January that the state-owned Office Chérifien des Phosphates (OCP) would invest more than \$1 billion to expand its production capacity in the next four years.

The OCP's strategy is to switch from exporting raw rock to processing it at home by converting it into phosphoric acid and fertilisers.

It present capacity is 30 million tonnes of rock a year from four open-cast mining centres. In the mid-1990s exports peaked at 20 million tonnes.

But because of the change in emphasis, coupled with a drop in

demand due to recession, rock exports to 36 countries were down to nine million tonnes last year and will be about the same this year.

The OCP forecasts output this year at 22.9 million tonnes, more than half processed locally to make phosphoric acid and fertilisers for export, mainly to Europe and Asia.

In its latest annual report, the OCP said work would start this year on building two more phosphate acid plants costing \$1.27 billion, bringing the total to seven.

A spokesman said invitations for tenders to build the plants would be launched soon. Previous plants were built by a consortium of Mitsui of Japan and Facoex of Spain.

The two plants will be at Jorf Lasfar, a new Atlantic harbour south of Casablanca, and will be able to produce 2,000 tonnes of acid a day starting in late 1995, rising to 4,000 tonnes when the project is completed.

By then it is estimated it will be possible to produce three million tonnes of acid, the main ingredient needed to make fertilisers.

The acid plants pour effluent into the Atlantic Ocean but officials say they are designed to prevent damage to the marine environment in what is one of the

world's richest fishing grounds for sardines, tuna and squid.

To reduce the environmental damage from the phosphate industry, the European Community is financing a \$1.52-million project to extract toxic cadmium from phosphoric acid at a pilot plant at the OCP's research centre in Casablanca.

The project is designed to demonstrate the feasibility of eliminating cadmium, a poisonous metal used to make paints and for plating metals, for the benefit of Morocco and other phosphate producers like Algeria, Jordan and Tunisia.

To replace workings that are near exhaustion, two new mines will be opened up, at Sidi Chennane in 1994, and at Ben Guerir this year. Together they will produce 15.2 million tonnes a year by 1995.

The OCP says the outlook is for fierce competition on the world market. Its report says there has been a "brutal stamp" in sales to eastern Europe because of financial difficulties and the abolition of farming subsidies there.

The immediate future depends on an end to recession worldwide, but in the long term Morocco will be ideally placed to keep a major share of the market," one analyst said.

## China issues circular on control of stock markets

BEIJING (R) — China has issued what it calls its most comprehensive document on control of its fledgling stock markets, the Xinhua News Agency said Saturday.

China's Party chief Jiang Zemin, addressing "old comrades," demanded that China clamp down on money supply, credit and project planning to keep the economy — which grew at a boozing 12 per cent last year — from running out of control.

"There have been some disorders in the country's securities markets owing to the lack of laws, regulations and supervision systems in this field, lack of experience in operating securities markets and the lack of investors' consciousness of risks," the official agency said.

The government has ordered spending of more than \$1.6 billion this year to pay subsidies to wheat and barley farmers at double the current world rates, a Xinhua newspaper said Sunday. Olzar daily said farmers would be offered two riyals per kilogramme (\$33 per tonne) of wheat and one riyal per kilogramme (\$267 per tonne) of barley. It said the total payment was expected to reach more than six billion riyals (\$1.6 billion), but gave no breakdown of expected production.

Wheat from other international producers is priced around \$200 to \$270 per tonne, while barley is \$100 to \$110. The newspaper said the payments were intended to boost wheat and barley output to make the kingdom one of the biggest world producers. Ambitious irrigation projects and a 20-year drive to develop its farming sector have already turned Saudi Arabia into the world's sixth largest wheat exporter.

Xinhua gave no other details on the document.

China's leaders have recently vowed to keep control over the

amount of money issued and the scale of credit," Mr. Jiang said, in a speech on the tasks for 1993 reported on the front page of the People's Daily.

"We must effectively block and overcome blind competition for speed and the phenomenon of low quality, duplicated construction," he said.

Premier Li Peng, in a separate speech also reported on the People's Daily's front page, called for more effective state control over the economy.

White he praised the economic accomplishment of the past year, he said China's economy lacked many of the key tools needed to ensure that the country could deal with the highs and lows of the business cycle.

He said the communist party itself could not let down its guard against corruption within its 51 million members.

"We must continue to clamp down in our work to maintain social order," Mr. Jiang said.

He said that while China can use capitalist economics to get rich, it cannot afford the incursion of capitalist thought.

"We must withstand the corrosive influence of decadent capitalist and feudalistic thought," the head of the world's largest Communist Party said.

Mr. Jiang said that despite a shakeup of the armed forces at the end of last year many unspecified problems still had to be solved.

He said the communist party must do more to keep control over the

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## S. Africa talks resume; whites warn de Klerk

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa's pro-government Afrikaans press has warned President F.W. de Klerk on the eve of renewed talks with black leaders that he is leaving white voters behind in his drive towards an all-race democracy.

The government resumes direct negotiations with Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's conservative Inkatha Freedom Party on Monday after a four-month hiatus.

And on Wednesday senior representatives of Mr. de Klerk's white government begin a five-day High Veld retreat with top African National Congress (ANC) negotiators to put flesh on the bones of an agreement reached at a similar private encounter in December.

Both meetings and a possible summit between Chief Buthelezi and ANC leader Nelson Mandela will be designed to restart all-party talks about giving the five-to-one black majority a share of political power for the first time in 300 years.

But the country's most influential Afrikaans newspapers warned bluntly in weekend columns that Mr. de Klerk was losing the support of the whites who elected him in 1989 and gave him a 69 per cent approval rating in a referendum on reform last year.

"Dissatisfaction is breaking out everywhere like measles," Die Burger said Saturday in the Dawie column, possibly the country's most influential Afrikaans political commentary.

"If there is one thing the government is going to have to put its heart and soul into in the coming months, it will be to regain its lost stature among white voters," Die Burger said.

Warning that whites fear a surrender of power and oppression by blacks, the newspaper urged Mr. de Klerk to take white voters forward step by step "... into the dark future."

The top-selling Afrikaans Sunday newspaper Rapport voiced a similar warning in its editorial comment.

"The feeling among the government's supporters that must be addressed is that they don't know where they are going. Worse, that instead of an orderly transition, they could end up with a total surrender and possible chaos," Rapport said.

The ANC's policy-making national working committee was due to meet Monday to prepare for the Veld encounter, which will start after a cabinet meeting with Mr. de Klerk Wednesday.

The ANC and the government are both eager to resume all-race democracy talks, which stalled last May in a dispute over minority vetoes in the formulation of a new constitution and broke down totally a month later.

"We hope to get it right this time ... a tremendous amount of progress has been made in bilaterals," ANC negotiator Mohammad Valli Moosa told reporters.

A senior government source told Reuters the ANC and the government had significantly narrowed the gap between their positions on powers for regional authorities and on the need for a government of national unity for at least the first five years of democratic rule.

The ANC wants a strong central government, but Mr. de Klerk's national party favours strong regional authorities and Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha wants a form of federalism.



PILGRIMAGE: Pilgrims climb down from the roof of an overcrowded train ferrying tens of thousands of Muslims from the countryside to the town of Tangi on Sunday, the second day of Biswa Ijtema (World Muslim Congregation) in Bangladeshi (AFP photo).

## Yugoslav units reenter Bosnia war

SARAJEVO (AP) — The Serb-dominated Yugoslav army has reentered the war it formally quit seven months ago, returning fire after Muslims in Bosnia lobbed shells across the border, army sources said Sunday.

The Yugoslav army "responded fiercely" to artillery attacks Sunday and Saturday from neighboring Bosnia, Tanjug, the official news agency of Serbian-dominated Yugoslavia, reported without elaboration.

No ground troops were involved, only artillery salvos at military targets across the border, according to a source at Yugoslav army headquarters in Belgrade.

It was the first time that Yugoslavia, now comprised of only Serbia and tiny Montenegro, has acknowledged involvement in the Bosnian war since May 19. The last Yugoslav units formally pulled out on that date, leaving behind tanks and other heavy weapons for Serb rebels.

Since then, both Yugoslav and Serbian officials have denied wide-spread accusations that they

are helping Bosnian Serbs.

Meanwhile, a U.N. convoy tried anew to reach isolated Zepa, a Muslim enclave of about 20,000 people that is reportedly being starved by surrounding ethnic-Serb fighters.

Serb fighters turned back the truck convoy Saturday within sight of Zepa because the road was blocked by logs. In doing so, they stopped 80 tonnes of relief supplies from reaching the town, where hundreds of people have reportedly died from hunger and cold.

Barry Frewer, spokesman for U.N. peacekeepers, said the convoy spent the night in Podromojac, half way between Zepa and Sarajevo, after turning back just outside Zepa, 65 kilometers east of Sarajevo.

Commander Frewer said the convoy on Sunday would try to reach Zepa by another route, recommended by Bosnian fighters.

"There's no thought of pulling back before we have exhausted all possibilities in getting

through," he said of the enclave that has not received aid since the outbreak of the nearly 10-month-old civil war.

Zepa shortwave radio operators, the only link to the outside world, say hundreds or people have died in and around their town of hunger and cold. Other regions have reported similar disasters.

Bosnian radio on Saturday reported 60 people froze to death in the last few days in the region of Zvornik, on the Serbian border 100 kilometers northeast of Sarajevo.

The cross-border artillery exchanges between Bosnian and Yugoslav units occurred near Bratunac, a Bosnian town 120 kilometers northeast of Sarajevo. Local Serb commanders Bratunac said they were trying to counter a Muslim offensive they described as the toughest in the region since the war began in February.

The Serb commanders accused Muslim-led troops of recent massacres of civilians in the region.

## Clinton nominee pays fine for hiring illegal aliens

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — U.S. Attorney General nominee Zoe Baird and her husband Saturday paid a \$2,900 fine for employing illegal aliens in their home, a Clinton transition spokesman said.

Communications Director George Stephanopoulos said: "We are pleased the matter is now resolved."

Mr. Stephanopoulos said in a statement that Mr. Clinton "has complete confidence in Zoe Baird, whose disclosures in this matter have been forthcoming from the beginning."

"And he looks forward to her confirmation and service as attorney general of the United States," he said.

The fine was a civil penalty requested by the Immigration

and Naturalisation Service (INS) paid by Ms. Baird and her husband Saturday in connection with the hiring of a babysitter and her husband who did not have authorization to work in this country.

Revelations of the employment arrangement and failure until recent weeks to pay social security taxes on the couple prompted a call for Ms. Baird's prosecution by House of Representatives Republican whip Newt Gingrich of Georgia.

Mr. Gingrich said Ms. Baird had no business in President-elect Clinton's cabinet.

"Clearly she has crossed the line," he said. "You can't have a person who ought to be prosecuted, serving in the cabinet."

"It is inconceivable to have an attorney general nominee, someone who is sworn to uphold and enforce the nation's laws, doing something like this," Mr. Gingrich said.

If confirmed, Ms. Baird would oversee the (INS), which enforces the 1986 immigration reform and control act. The law carries civil penalties of up to \$3,000 per count for businesses and individuals who knowingly hire illegal aliens.

While the penalties for immigration violations are relatively small, the penalty for social security tax violations can involve fines of up to \$100,000 and prison terms.

"It is clear that we are creating a double standard where

such actions can cause a small business owner to face jail or bankruptcy, but allow Mrs. Baird to become attorney general," Mr. Gingrich said.

Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee have said they doubt the disclosure will derail Mrs. Baird's confirmation to head the Justice Department.

A spokesman for Sen. Trent Lott, (Republican-Mississippi), who is coordinating Republican scrutiny of all Clinton nominees in the Senate, said Friday that Republicans were prepared to question Mr. Baird on the issue but that, depending on her answers, it probably would not be disqualifying.

"I think it'll be an issue," spokesman Bruce Lott said. "It may not be a killer issue."

An attorney for Mr. Baird, Thomas H. Belote, said he advised her and her husband that she was unlikely to be fined for what he called a technical violation of federal immigration law. His letter was released by Clinton transition officials.

Ms. Baird is general counsel of Aetna Life and Casualty Co. in New Haven. Her husband, Paul Gewirtz, is a law professor at Yale.

The Peruvian couple no longer works for Ms. Baird and Mr. Gewirtz. The man left his work as a driver for Ms. Baird last March, and the woman left after the election in November.

## Bush ready to 'shift gears' in four days

CAMP DAVID, Maryland (Agencies) — President George Bush said Saturday he was not bitter or resentful over leaving the White House and was ready to "shift gears" in a few days and be a private citizen again.

"There's no point in trying to continue something that isn't," he said of his presidency, which has three more days to run before President-elect Bill Clinton is inaugurated Wednesday.

"And I'm trying to conduct myself with dignity, and hopefully in a spirit of total cooperation with Governor Clinton," Mr. Bush said, adding: "No bitterness in my heart."

The president made his comments to reporters at the Camp David, Maryland, presidential retreat. He and his wife Barbara were spending their final weekend at the presidential retreat with visiting Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his family.

Mr. Mulroney had just arrived in a helicopter and was standing beside Mr. Bush as he spoke while Mrs. Bush, Mr. Mulroney's wife Mila, and three of the Mulroney children lingered nearby.

"January 20, when I walk out of that Capitol, I'm a private citizen. And I hope I'll be treated as a private citizen," Mr. Bush told reporters.

"I'm not looking to sit at the head table. I'm not looking to have press conferences," he said. "We're gonna really shift gears like that."

Mr. Bush was certain to have to spend at least part of his last weekend working on the situation in Iraq. He said he would consult with Mr. Mulroney and other Gulf war allies as well as the United Nations on an offer from Iraq of conditional safe passage for U.N. planes.

But there was some time in the schedule for relaxing with Mr. Mulroney, a good friend of the

## 'Royal tapes' in full in British newspapers

LONDON (AP) — Two Sunday tabloids published full transcripts of an intimate, taped conversation allegedly between Prince Charles and an ex-girlfriend.

The Sunday Mirror and the People are the latest newspapers to reveal all. The transcript first appeared last week in the Australian magazine New Idea. Three Irish and two British newspapers followed suit.

Buckingham Palace has refused to comment on the transcript, which reportedly captured Prince Charles murmuring bedtime endearments via portable telephone to Camilla Parker Bowles.

Sunday Mirror Editor Colin Myler, in a page two statement headlined "your right to know," saw that the future king's royal subjects deserved to know the details of the titillating bedtime exchange.

"I believe it is wrong that the near nine million readers of this newspaper should be denied the right to read something so important affecting the future king of England, when people in Australia, Germany, America and Ireland already have."

"Yes, I will be criticised. Yes, I will be damned, but why should the people of Britain be treated with such hypocrisy and contempt?"

The people started its transcript on the front-page, with the headline: "Read the royal love tape in full."

In an editorial, the newspaper pointed to widespread circulation of the transcript in some circles.

## UNHCR envoy slams Cambodia peace force

PHNOM PENH (Agencies) — United Nations goodwill ambassador Barbara Hendricks has urged peacekeepers in Cambodia to get tough on ceasefire violations.

"I can't say where the problem is but I can say it's not being done."

Ms. Hendricks, one of the world's leading opera singers, told reporters that visits to mine-clearing sites, refugee centres and resettlement areas and talks with Cambodians had convinced her the people's main fear was the U.N. force's inability to provide adequate security.

"My own personal feeling is that if we're going to have a U.N. military presence they have got to have some authority and stop the ceasefire violations; otherwise, I mean, it's really a farce," she said.

Ms. Hendricks, an American, is an envoy for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

"If we can't do it here (achieve peace) ... we can't do it anywhere. We might as well close down the house and give money back," she said, referring to the \$2 billion price tag on the mission of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

The U.N.-sponsored peace agreement signed in Paris in 1991 by all four rival Cambodian factions paved the way for the 22,000-strong UNTAC force to supervise the running of the country until elections scheduled for next May at the latest.

But the ambitious accord has been lurching from one crisis to another because of the armed insistance of the hardline Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction and an increasing wave of political violence sweeping the country.

Ms. Hendricks said UNTAC's inability to deal with the dual problems worried her.

"That is really one of things that concern me most: Their (UNTAC) inability or unwillingness — I don't know which it is —

to really deal very forcefully with those ceasefire violations," she said.

Ms. Hendricks, an attorney for Mr. Baird, Thomas H. Belote, said he advised her and her husband that she was unlikely to be fined for what he called a technical violation of federal immigration law. His letter was released by Clinton transition officials.

Ms. Hendricks is general counsel of Aetna Life and Casualty Co. in New Haven. Her husband, Paul Gewirtz, is a law professor at Yale.

The Peruvian couple no longer works for Ms. Baird and Mr. Gewirtz. The man left his work as a driver for Ms. Baird last March, and the woman left after the election in November.

A U.N. statement said Dr. Ghali revealed his plans to Hor Nam Hong, a member of Cambodia's interim Supreme National Council and foreign minister of the Phnom Penh government.

"They expressed their hope that the difficulties created by one of the political parties would be overcome," the statement said in an obvious reference to the Khmer Rouge.

No precise dates were given but U.N. sources thought the visit would take place early in February and be followed by a visit to Japan.

Remains identified

Human remains dug up in Cambodia last year have been identified as those of an American correspondent who disappeared 23 years ago while covering the war in southeast Asia, a National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) official said Saturday.

Welles Hangan's remains were positively identified Friday night by the U.S. Army central identification laboratory in Honolulu, said Arthur Lord, a senior producer for NBC News.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Sri Lankan rebel leader dies in ship blast

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger rebels confirmed Sunday that one of their leaders was killed when the ship in which he was travelling was intercepted by the Indian navy, Tamil sources said. "The Tamil Tiger radio in northern Sri Lanka has announced Sathasivam Krishnamuram, alias Kittu, has been killed and the rebels are paying homage to him," a leader of a rival Tamil group said Sunday. The leader who did not want to be identified said his information was based on monitoring the radio station of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in their northern Jaffna peninsula stronghold. Other Tamil sources in Colombo also confirmed the rebel announcement in Jaffna. An Indian Defence Ministry spokesman said Saturday navy vessels had surrounded the ship, the Ahat, off the southern Indian port of Madras after discovering it was carrying arms and ammunition. They ordered the Ahat to surrender. Instead the guerrillas set off the explosion.

### Indonesia to get 39 German warships in April

JAKARTA (R) — The Indonesian navy is to take delivery of 39 ageing former East German vessels in April, including Corvettes and minesweepers, Antara news agency reported Sunday. Antara quoted Rear Admiral Tanto Koeswanto as saying the consignment would also include 14 landing ship transports. Foreign defence analysts in Jakarta say the ships will allow the Indonesian navy to play a more effective role in the waters around the archipelago.

### Japan reports epilepsy from video games

TOKYO (R) — Japanese hospitals have reported at least a dozen cases in which children have had epileptic fits while playing computer video games, the daily Tokyo Shimbun said Sunday. The Citizen's Hospital in the northern city of Niigata said doctors had treated 10 such patients aged between 10 and 15 since 1985. Another hospital in northern Miyagi prefecture had reported two cases since 1988, Tokyo Shimbun said. Britain recently launched an inquiry into whether children could suffer epileptic fits from playing computer games after two boys in Cardiff had seizures. Japan's Health Ministry said last week that it would investigate the effects of computer games.

### Broadband reports epilepsy from video games

TOKYO (R) — Japanese experts say they can pinpoint underground gold deposits by testing the leaves of certain trees for gold content, the daily Tokyo Shimbun reported Sunday. Analysts at the Metal Mining Industry Association, an affiliate of the Trade Ministry, told the daily they had studied the gold content of plants growing above 12 gold mines in Japan. They had found high concentrations of fine, powder gold in the leaves of three kinds of trees — the gromwell, spicebush and Japanese beech, the daily said. Association experts said roots of these plants were able to absorb fine gold dust from underground water. The powder then found its way into the leaves. Inspecting leaves would be much cheaper than random drilling for gold veins, they told the daily. The method could be used to pinpoint veins after a general prospection area had been designated in a geological survey, which normally uses aerial and satellite photographs. The association started its research in 1987 and would continue until next year to collect more data, the newspaper said. It did not say if new gold veins had been discovered using the method.

### There's gold in them there trees

TOKYO (R) — Japanese experts say they can pinpoint underground gold deposits by testing the leaves of certain trees for gold content, the daily Tokyo Shimbun reported Sunday. Analysts at the Metal Mining Industry Association, an affiliate of the Trade Ministry, told the daily they had studied the gold content of plants growing above 12 gold mines in Japan. They had found high concentrations of fine, powder gold